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## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, a Senator from the State of Delaware.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, give our lawmakers the wisdom to remember to be grateful for all the things You have already done.

Lord, You have sustained our Nation during seasons of war and peace. You have helped us find creative ways to strive for a more perfect Union. You have provided us with solutions to difficult problems just when we needed You most.

Eternal Spirit, let this day be a time when Senators feel gratitude for Your bountiful blessings and faithfulness. May they express this gratitude by striving to live one day at a time, focusing on Your mercy, love, and grace.

We pray in Your loving Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, April 28, 2021.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, a Senator from the State of Delaware, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. COONS thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "OIL AND NATURAL GAS SECTOR: EMISSION STANDARDS FOR NEW, RECONSTRUCTED, AND MODIFIED SOURCES REVIEW"

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 48, S.J. Res. 14, the methane CRA.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the joint resolution, S.J. Res. 14.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 48, S.J. Res. 14, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources Review."

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the provisions of title 5, U.S.C., chapter 802, there will now be up to 10 hours of debate, equally divided.

The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, at the start of the year, the Senate Democrats pledged that one of our top priorities would be tackling climate change. I directed all of our incoming committee chairs to hold hearings and prepare legislation on the climate crisis. I promised that any infrastructure bill would be green and focused on creating the green jobs of the future. Both of these efforts, I am happy to report, are well under way.

And, today, as we approach the 100-day mark of this new Congress, the Senate will take the first major step in combating climate change on the Senate floor, by reinstating safeguards against methane emissions.

Specifically, today's vote will use the Congressional Review Act to reimpose commonsense regulations against methane leaks from the oil and gas industry, from production and processing to transmission and storage.

And let me note that this would be the first time that the Senate Democratic majority has used the Congressional Review Act. It is no mistake that we have chosen to use the law first on the subject of climate change.

Under this Democratic majority, the Senate will be a place where we take decisive, ambitious, and effective action against climate change. And this CRA, the reinstatement of the rule dealing with methane emissions, will be the most significant act that the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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